



Department of Health and Human Services
 MaineCare Services
 Health Care Management
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Qualifying for MaineCare Coverage through the Katie Beckett Option-

According to federal rules for the program, *your child* must:

- 1) be under age 19
- 2) be living at home
- 3) medically need the “level of care” provided in a hospital, nursing home, or intermediate care facility for children with mental retardation, autism or other developmental disabilities and the cost for services at home cannot be greater than the cost of care in the facility where your child would otherwise be served (see threshold information below)
- 4) be found to have physical or mental disabilities qualifying under Social Security disability rules and these disabilities must be expected to continue for at least 12 months
- 5) have income and assets lower than the limits to receive Medicaid coverage in Maine (parents’ income or assets are not counted)

Understanding the Katie Beckett Yearly Benefit Threshold

The MaineCare Katie Beckett program will pay up to an annual amount listed below for your child’s care. The amounts are based on the cost per year for care in the facility.

For Children who medically need the level of care provided in a...	MaineCare will pay up to the amounts below in benefits per year	MaineCare will contact your family if costs are more than this amount per month
Nursing Facility	\$65,179	\$4,074
Hospital	\$93,642	\$5,853
Psychiatric Hospital Unit for Children/Adolescents	\$98,970	\$6,186
Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with a diagnosis of mental retardation (ICF-MR)	\$150,442	\$9403
Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with a diagnosis of mental retardation (ICF-MR) who also meet requirements for a Nursing Facility	\$196,829	\$12,537

If costs for your child’s services are more than the monthly amount above, you will receive a letter asking you to contact MaineCare to discuss your child’s healthcare needs. Changes to services or other options may be suggested to you to help meet your child’s needs and cost less than the annual threshold.

If your child's care cannot be safely provided under the annual amount above, your child may no longer be eligible for Katie Beckett coverage. If this happens, your child may qualify for a different MaineCare benefit. You may request a meeting with MaineCare Services to resolve any concerns or if you disagree with MaineCare's decision about coverage or services. Your child has appeal rights under MaineCare Benefits Manual Chapter 1 section 22.

For more information, you can:

- 1) Contact your child's case manager or a care manager who works with MaineCare. They can talk about ways to make sure that the services your child is getting meet your child's needs.
- 2) If your child has Katie Beckett coverage, you can call MaineCare toll-free at 1-866-796-2463. The phone will be answered by the MaineCare Pharmacy HelpDesk. Tell them that you are calling because you received a letter regarding your child's Katie Beckett benefit. They will transfer you to a care manager to develop a care plan for your child.

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